

Application No. 10/626,675
Attorney Docket No.: 030901
Amendment Filed: June 28, 2007

REMARKS

Upon entry of this Amendment, claims 1, 3-7 and 10-12 will be pending in the present application. Claims 3-7 are withdrawn from consideration. Claims 1 and 11 are herein amended. No new matter has been entered. It is respectfully submitted that this Amendment is fully responsive to the Final Office Action dated April 4, 2007.

Applicants appreciate the courtesies extended by Examiner Kackar during the telephone interview on March 26, 2007 regarding the condition of the pending claims. The substance of this interview is incorporated into the remarks below.

Claim Rejections – 35 U.S.C. 102(e)/103(a)

Claims 1 and 10-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as anticipated by, or in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Goodman et al (U.S. Pat. No. 6,454,865).

Applicants respectfully disagree with the Examiner's characterization of the cited reference. However, to expedite prosecution and clarify the subject matter of the present invention, Applicants hereby amend claims 1 and 11 to recite that "a first notch (is) provided in a side surface of the susceptor" and "a second notch (is) provided in the side surface of the susceptor." Applicants also amend claims 1 and 11 to recite that "a first groove (is) formed on the rear surface of the susceptor and extend(s) from the first notch to the first opening..." and "a second groove (is) formed on the rear surface of the susceptor and extend(s) from the second notch to the second opening..." Applicants submit that *Goodman et al* does not describe such a

Application No. 10/626,675
Attorney Docket No.: 030901
Amendment Filed: June 28, 2007

structure. For example, *Goodman et al* describes a structure wherein gas is supplied to the pocket through recesses **provided at the bottom of the susceptor**. See Fig. 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the claim rejections based on *Goodman et al*.

Conclusion

In view of the aforementioned amendments and accompanying remarks, Applicants submit that the claims, as herein amended, are in condition for allowance. Applicants request such action at an early date.

If the Examiner believes that this application is not now in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney to arrange for an interview to expedite the disposition of this case.

If this paper is not timely filed, Applicants respectfully petition for an appropriate extension of time. The fees for such an extension or any other fees that may be due with respect to this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-2866.

Respectfully submitted,

WESTERMAN, HATTORI, DANIELS & ADRIAN, LLP



Darin A. Auito
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 56,024
Telephone: (202) 822-1100
Facsimile: (202) 822-1111

DAA/rf